

February 11, 1946

Dr. M. Demerec  
Carnegie Institution  
Cold Spring Harbor  
Long Island, New York

Dear Dr. Demerec:

I have your kind invitation to attend and participate in the symposium on microorganisms in July. I should like very much to attend, but I am frankly dubious about the advisability in presenting a paper and would like to discuss this with you first.

It seems to me that I have put into my chapter of your book on Recent Advances in Genetics everything that might be suitable for presentation at Cold Spring Harbor. I, therefore, doubt the advisability of repeating the part of that chapter for I do not want to publish the same thing twice though of course, I should be glad to present part of the material-any part that you might like-if it were not to be published again. The only other alternative would be to give an account of current work in our laboratory and with regard to this possibility, I frankly do not feel that I can afford to take the time to prepare a manuscript for you by June 20th. During the past six months I have taken an enormous amount of time from my research to prepare that chapter for you and the conference in New York took more time away from research and now comes the St. Louis conference stealing more time, so that I am beginning to despair of ever having a period for concentrated, undisturbed research activity. It is for this reason that I hesitate to obligate myself to prepare another paper in the near future.

I would appreciate knowing how you feel about this and particularly what you think about possible overlapping between my chapter and what you would want for the summer conference. If you think I must submit a manuscript in order to participate, let me have information as to the size of manuscript and length of time allowed to each speaker, and I will give you my decision as soon as I can thereafter.

I did not have an opportunity to tell you in New York how much I enjoyed the meeting and how very successful I thought it was. You are certainly to be congratulated

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Demerec

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on the way you managed things. I greatly enjoyed having contact with some of the cancer workers, particularly Heston and Kidd, and I think that Kidd and I worked out together what might be some very important developments on the Pearce-Brown tumor studies. It was a great pleasure to me to see how closely my work is tying up with the cancer research and even more to find out that the cancer workers themselves are keenly aware of this. With very best regards.

Yours truly,

T. M. Sonneborn  
Professor of Zoology

TMS/ef

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